

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:	Huang et al.	Examiner:	Tae H. Yoon
Serial No:	10/518201	Art Unit:	1796
Filed:	October 6, 2005		
For:	PLANARIZATION FILMS FOR ADVANCED MICROELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS AND DEVICES AND METHODS OF PRODUCTION THEREOF		

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

**MAIL STOP AF
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450**

OK TO ENTER: /TY/

Dear Sir:

11/05/2010

This paper responds to the Final Office Action dated September 3, 2010. Please enter the following:

CLAIMS AMENDMENTS: Begin on Page 2

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS: None

FIGURES AMENDMENTS: None

REMARKS SECTION: Begins on Page 4

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-25: Canceled.

26. (Currently Amended) A film comprising [[the]] a planarization composition [[of claim 18]] wherein the planarization composition consists of:
an o-cresol-based polymer compound and a resol phenolic resin;
at least one surfactant; and
a solvent system consisting of at least one solvent, wherein at least some of the solvent system is removed.

Claims 27-29: Canceled.

30. (Currently Amended) A layered component, comprising:
a substrate having a surface topography; and
a planarization composition consisting of:
an o-cresol-based polymer compound and a resol phenolic resin;
at least one surfactant; and
a solvent system consisting of at least one solvent, [[of claim 18]], and wherein the composition is coupled to the substrate.

31. (Original) The layered component of claim 30, further comprising at least one additional layer of material or film.

32. (Original) A layered component, comprising:
a substrate having a surface topography; and
a layer comprising the film of claim 26, wherein the layer is coupled to the substrate.

33. (Original) The layered component of claim 32, further comprising at least one additional layer of material or film.

Claims 34-52: Canceled.

53. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a film, comprising:

providing [[the]] a planarization composition consisting of:
an o-cresol-based polymer compound and a resol phenolic resin;
at least one surfactant; and
a solvent system consisting of at least one solvent, [[of claim 18]]; and
evaporating at least part of the solvent system to form a film.

54. (Original) The method of claim 53, wherein evaporating at least part of the solvent system comprises applying a continuous source to the planarization composition.

55. (Original) The method of claim 54, wherein the continuous source comprises a heat source.

56. (Original) The method of claim 55, wherein the continuous source comprises an infrared source, an ultraviolet source, an electron-beam source and combinations thereof.

Claims 57-77: Canceled.

REMARKS

35 USC § 103

Claims 18-22, 24-25, 36, 41-42, 47-49, 51-52 and 76-77 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over FR 281602 in view of Hattori (US 6165676) and further in view of Miyamoto et al (US 6808857).

Claims 18-21, 24-25, 36, 41-42, 47-49, 51-52 and 76-77 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over FR 281602 in view of Drage (US 5858547) and further in view of Miyamoto et al (US 6808857).

The Applicant respectfully disagrees with all of these rejections. The rejected claims are canceled herein in order to allow the allowable claims to proceed without costing the client additional resources on this individual application. The canceled claims will be pursued through a divisional application in order to provide arguments addressing those separately. Therefore, cancellation of those claims herein should not be viewed as any sort of admission on the Applicant's part that those claims aren't allowable. They are merely being canceled in order to pursue them separately and move the allowable claims forward. The Examiner's rejections in the current final office action are mooted and therefore, a notice of allowance should be issued immediately.

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

Claims 26, 30-33 and 53-56 are pending in this application, and the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the claims in light of the arguments presented and allow all pending claims. The Examiner should not need to issue an Advisory Action in this case, since the claims amendments purely put the claims in condition for allowance, which is one of the conditions where claims amendments are allowed after a final office action.

Respectfully submitted,

Buchalter Nemer, A Professional Corp.



Sandra P. Thompson, PhD, Esq.
Reg. No. 46,264
E-mail: sthompson@buchalter.com
Direct Line: 949-224-6282

Dated: November 3, 2010 By:

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT(S):

Buchalter Nemer, A Professional Corporation
18400 Von Karman Ave., Suite 800
Irvine, CA 92612
Fax: 949-224-6203